

REMARKS

Entry of the amendments is respectfully requested. Claims 9, 11, and 28 have been amended. Claims 1-6 and 23-27 have been canceled. Claims 7-22 and 28-30 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested in light of the foregoing amendments and the remarks that follow.

1. Rejections Based on the Prior Art

Claims 1-6 and 23-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,221,335 to Shames. Claims 1-6 and 23-27 have been canceled, without disclaimer or prejudice, obviating the rejection of these claims. Withdrawal of the rejection is therefore requested. Applicants reserve the right to file a continuation application for the subject matter of the canceled claims at a later date.

2. Allowed Claims and Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 9-11 and 28-30 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim and are indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 9, 11, and 28 have been so rewritten. Claim 10 depends from claim 9, and claims 29 and 30 depend from claim 28. Therefore, claims 9-11 and 28-30 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

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The applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that claims 7-8 and 12-22 are allowed.

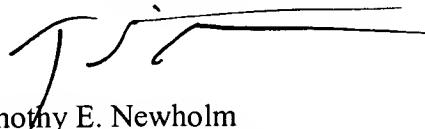
CONCLUSION

It is submitted that claims 7-22 and 28-30 each defines patentable subject matter. A Notice of Allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

No fees are believed to be payable with this communication. Nevertheless, should the Examiner consider any other fees to be payable in conjunction with this or any future communication, authorization is given to direct payment of such fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1170.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it would help expedite matters.

Respectfully submitted,



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